



COMING TO BURIEN, WA

How Media Can Influence Public Perceptions of Mental Illnesses and What You Can Do About It

Free training and lunch for

- Reporters
- Mental health consumers and peers
- First responders
- Mental health providers
- Caregivers
- Anyone interested

Sponsored by:

Washington State
Mental Health
Transformation Project,
University of Washington
School of Social Work, and
Mental Health Action

www.mentalhealthreporting.org

A training for individuals interested in seeing more accurate reporting on issues related to mental illness in the news. Anyone interested in improving public understanding of mental illness, wellness and recovery is invited.

Social stigma against people with mental illness is alive and well in Washington State, creating barriers to recovery and wellness for thousands of individuals. As a person informed on mental health issues, you know first-hand the harm discrimination causes. Since public perceptions are shaped by popular and news media, this training will help raise awareness of the ways in which media characterizations can be inaccurate, how language shapes community attitudes and, on how to work successfully with local media organizations to provide accurate information about mental health.

DATE: Thursday, September 24, 2009

TIME: 9:30 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION: Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission
19010 1st Avenue South
Room 250 A and B
Burien, Washington 98148**

DEADLINE for registration: Friday, September 11, 2009

To register for the training and for lunch, please send, fax, or email the information below to:

Helen Nilon, Mental Health Action, 126 SW 148th Street, Suite C100-310, Burien, WA 98166-1984
Phone: (206) 972-7647 • Fax: (206) 708-1930 • email: MentalHealthAction@comcast.net

For more information, go to: www.mhtransformation.wa.gov

Registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 11, 2009. Space is limited. Confirmation will be sent prior to training.

Name _____ Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

I want to learn more about:

- ☐ Where to find credible information for reporting on mental illness.
- ☐ How to write letters and op-ed pieces for publications.
- ☐ How to work with reporters on story ideas.
- ☐ How language and misconceptions about violence shape public perceptions.
- ☐ Research on news reporting trends about people with mental illness.
- ☐ Other: _____



Washington's
Mental Health Transformation Project
Partnerships for Recovery & Resiliency